

CONSENT CALENDAR

General Information

**SUPERVISOR
KEVIN JEFFRIES
RIVERSIDE
COUNTY
DISTRICT #1**



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Jeffries Journal

Volume 6, Issue 6

June 2018

Kevin's Corner

Caught In The Middle - In what can only be described as a "no good deed goes unpunished" scenario, a small, local business owner has literally spent years trying to get permits to give his store and parking lot a facelift. After our office helped him battle through the punishing bureaucracy, fees, and plan checks, he finally obtained his permits and started giving his building a nice looking facelift. One portion of the many detailed requirements was to make sure he included county approved drought tolerant plants and irrigation in his planters. The building facelift is now completed, the mandated plants are in, and it's time to obtain all the final sign-offs—Not so fast, Mister Small Businessman! While our county inspectors were happy with the drought tolerant planters, it seems that a regional state agency missed the memo (drought tolerant plants = good, lots of water hungry plants = bad), because they informed the business owner that his planters were unacceptable to the state and that they needed to be filled with 75% coverage. The penalty for noncompliance by this terrible water wise business owner is nearly \$500 a year until he comes into compliance. A decision by the small business owner as to which government rules (county or state) he will defy is pending.

The Unwanted Hand Off - I frequently receive an earful about the horrendous traffic conditions on our local freeways (91, 15, 215 & 60 to name a few). Elected county and city representatives are often asked when we will be fixing them to handle all the traffic. As I explain that our local freeways are owned and operated by the State of California (Caltrans), the real discussion that should follow but seldom does is: When did the State walk away and hand off to local government the financial responsibility to construct or improve our state freeways? State spending is at historically high levels, yet the financial responsibility falls mostly on local government and upon you and your pocketbook through local transportation sales taxes. To further complicate the congestion situation, members of the State Legislature are upset with the lack of affordable housing construction and are actively looking for ways to force local governments to approve more housing, while I might note, contributing little to no additional State general fund revenues to help with our freeway parking lots. This is all occurring at the same time we also need to fund and fix the local community roads we are actually responsible to maintain. I'm sure the LA-SF state bullet train (currently projected to be 100% over budget) will make things all better!

Poor Priorities - Outside of all the financial problems on the horizon for counties and cities (\$300 million pension cost increase just for Riverside County), one of the most pressing social challenges that local governments faces is what to do with the homeless who refuse to accept a helping hand and where to put the ones that do. We have even had several reports of homeless being bussed in to Riverside County (although nobody has ever taken a picture or obtained a license plate of the buses). As I had shared roughly a year ago, I had hoped that we (local cities and the county) could utilize some of the surplus millions of dollars that the Western Riverside County Council of Governments has been sitting on to fund and construct badly needed homeless facilities. Unfortunately, the voting membership is apparently continuing with the plan to build a high tech WRCOG monument (building) to woo & wow people instead. Of course, you'll likely have to step over the homeless to get inside.

Hang in there, fellow Riverside County Taxpayers - someday common sense may prevail.

Respectfully,
Kevin Jeffries

*Interested in serving your local community?
Perhaps you are more of a regional advocate?
If you live in or have a business in District #1, be sure to look at the list
of openings we have below for local commissions.
If you feel you have the time to dedicate to making the district a better place feel free
to apply online at www.supervisorjeffries.com, under Boards & Commissions*

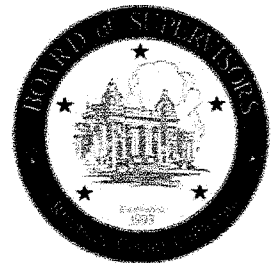
Good Hope / Meadowbrook Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) - Alternate opening

Mead Valley Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) - Alternate opening

In Home Support Services (IHSS) - Recipient of IHSS Services

Behavioral Health Commission - Contact our office for details on eligibility

County Archives Commission - Opening pending (seeking qualified applicants)



Local District #1 Events



In May we recognized the work and time Jim Snyder dedicated to the community of Lakeland Village. Jim served on the Lakeland Village Community Advisory Council for four years and has volunteered numerous hours of his time.

Thank you Jim for your dedication to our community, it is appreciated.

Flag Day... June 14th 2018

"And let us never forget that in honoring our flag, we honor the American men and women who have courageously fought and died for it..."

-President Ronald Reagan



Local District #1 Events

Walgreens

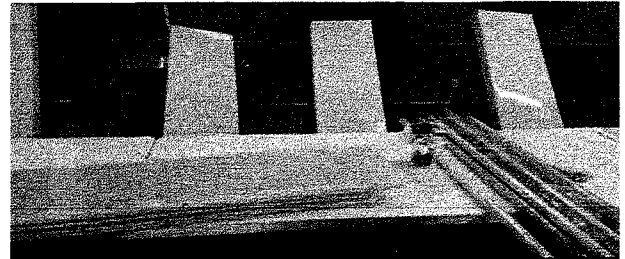
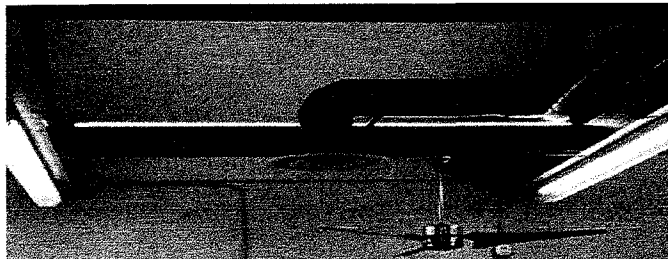
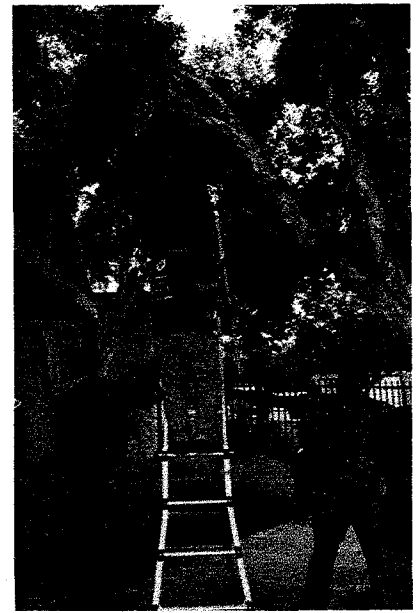
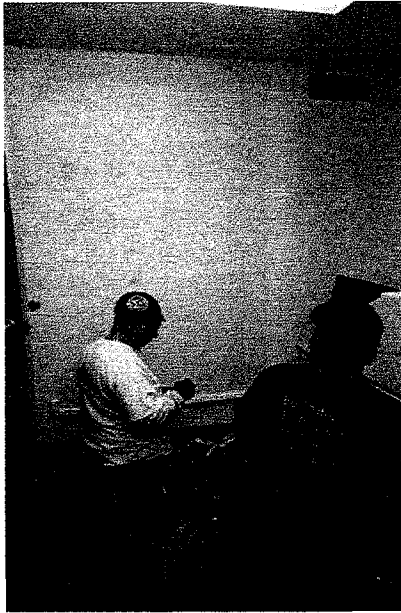
Dedicates Day to Good Hope Community



Huge thanks go out to all the employees of Walgreens (Moreno Valley Warehouse) for their help this month at our Good Hope community center.

With their help, we were able to repair plumbing, add new electrical fixtures, remove landscaping, cut trees, and install internet wiring for our new computer workstations.

Walgreens employees will be coming back in June to help us finish several projects including painting and new flooring too!

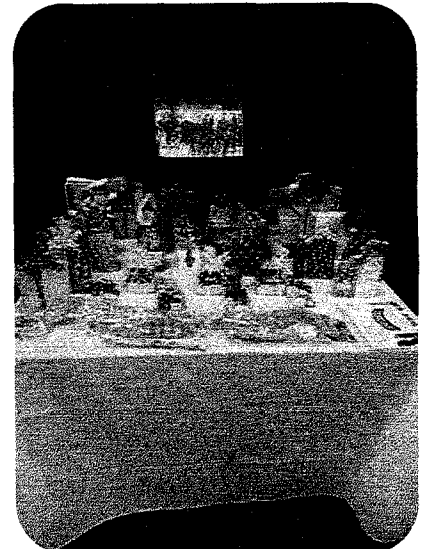


Local District #1 Events

Supervisor Jeffries helps celebrate Mother's Day in Mead Valley

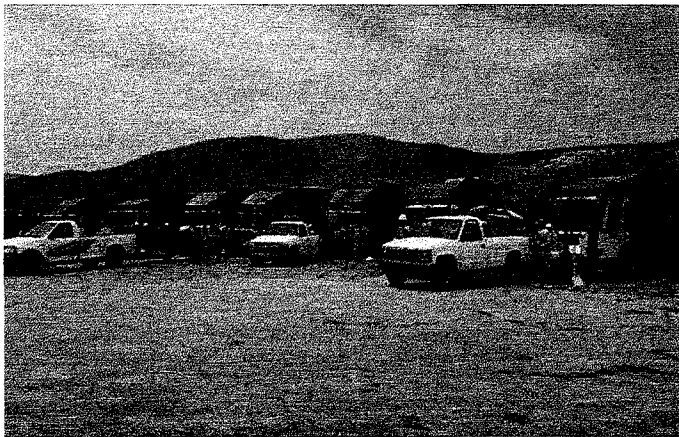
Mother's Day celebrations kicked off early this year in Mead Valley. Combining both our Janet Goeske Senior Center event and The Grove Mother's Day celebration proved to be a hit for everyone in attendance. Moms were able to enjoy great food, prizes, games, music and fun too!

It was a great event for everyone and all the Mom's left happy, looking to forward to 2019. Not to be forgotten, the Dads who did show up could be heard saying..."Our day is coming next month!"



COMMUNITY CLEANUP

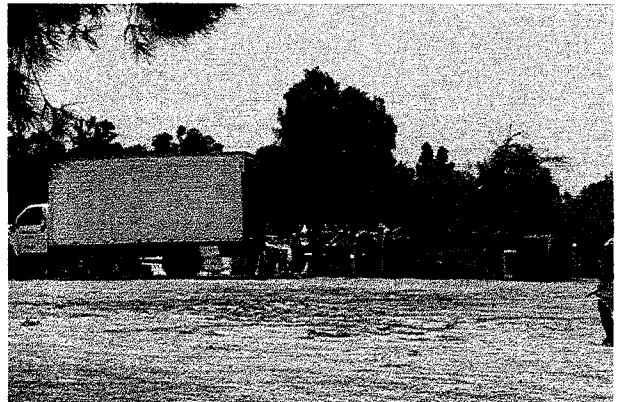
MEAD VALLEY COMMUNITY CLEAN UP



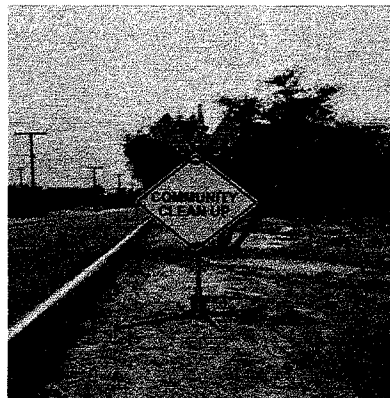
A big thank you to all those residents who made our Mead Valley and Gavilan Hills community clean ups a great success!

Thank you to all the volunteers who came out to assist, WMI for providing the trucks/roll offs etc. and to our Waste Resources Department for all of their hard work as well.

We'll be picking back up with more community clean ups in the fall of this year, so stay tuned to this newsletter, our website or visit one of you local community centers for more information on upcoming events.



GAVILAN HILLS COMMUNITY CLEAN UP



Local District #1 Events

Temescal Valley Faire 2018



Supervisor Kevin Jeffries with Janlee Watson & MAC Member, Robert Haftner



This year the community of Temescal Valley celebrated its Bicentennial! In addition to the County Service Departments that attended, our office had over 40 Youth Advisory Council volunteers!



Woodcrest Town Hall

Thank you to the community of Woodcrest who turned out to our annual Town Hall event to meet with Supervisor Kevin Jeffries, as well as meet county department staff members and management who provide the daily services to the community.

Stay tuned to our newsletter for our 2019 date and location of the next town hall. Also, don't forget to attend our community Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) meetings. They are held on the second Thursday of the month, at 6pm at the Woodcrest Library in odd months.

Hope to see many of you at our monthly meetings in 2018!

Non-Profit Spotlight

REACHING NEW HEIGHTS FOUNDATION

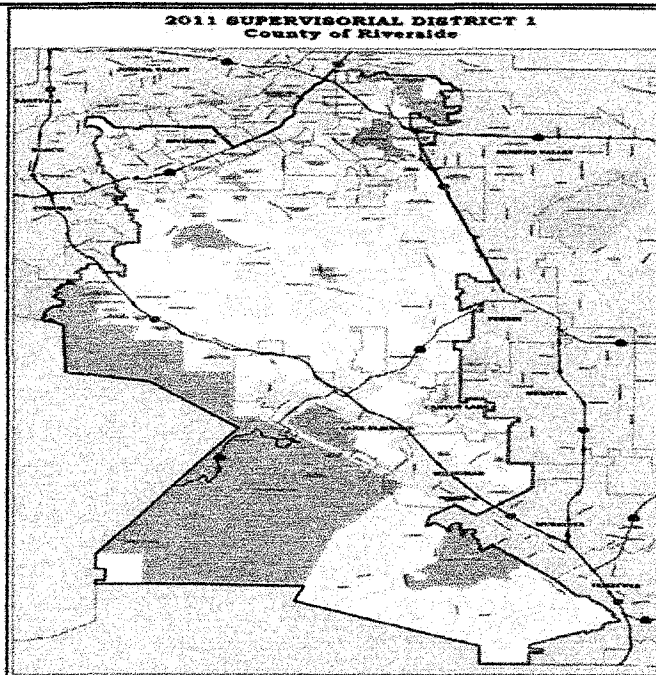


**REACHING
NEW HEIGHTS
FOUNDATION**
★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Reaching New Heights Foundation (RNHF) is dedicated to "Serving Those Who Served" by providing veteran resources, mentoring, employment, and housing assistance. RNHF collaborates with local and government organizations in connecting veterans to care. Their goal is to assist with a veteran's transition back into civilian life.

Reaching New Heights Foundation provides an array of services that assist veterans transitioning from active duty, incarceration, or homelessness. Services are provided through collaboration with local and government agencies to build pride and stability. RNHF's Mentor Program generates a roadmap for success through interaction and accountability. Veterans Awareness Resources (VAR) assists veterans in applying for VA disability compensation, healthcare, burial benefits, obtaining medical records and many other VA benefits. RNHF's association with the Veterans Service offices in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties provides many of the services connecting veterans to benefits that they have earned.

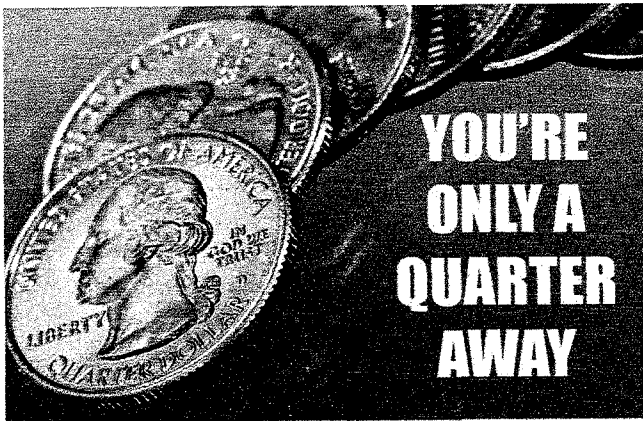
For more information about RNHF, visit their website: <http://reachingnewheightsfoundation.com/>



First District Profile



Kevin Jeffries was elected in November 2012 to represent the residents of the 1st Supervisorial District on the Riverside County Board of Supervisors. This district covers the cities of Riverside, Lake Elsinore, Canyon Lake, and Wildomar, and unincorporated communities including Woodcrest, Lake Mathews, Mead Valley, Temescal Valley, Good Hope, Lakeland Village, El Cariso, Meadowbrook, La Cresta, Tenaja, DeLuz and Spring Hills.



STUDENTS RIDE RTA BUSES FOR ONLY 25¢ ALL SUMMER LONG

Riverside Transit Agency

Customer Information Center: (951) 565-5002
www.RiversideTransit.com

Don't sit at home and play video games this summer. Get out and have some fun with a little help from the Riverside Transit Agency. For the entire summer, RTA is offering all students, from elementary school to high school, 25-cent fares aboard any bus. Just flash your student ID and ride for a quarter to the movies, the mall, the beach—anywhere we go, anytime we operate. And if you have a summer job, we'll take you there too.

Plus, with comfortable seating, free Wi-Fi service and USB ports, there's never been a better time to ride the bus. Show up in style, not in Mom's minivan.

Parents, rest assured that we'll get your kids where they need to go safely. With trained drivers and a clean environment, passenger safety is our number-one priority.

Getting around is easy. Visit our website at RiversideTransit.com to view schedules or contact our Customer Information Center.

at (951) 565-5002 to plan your next trip. We're open until 10 p.m. every day.

On the back of this flyer are just some of the cool things you can do this summer. Some require a short walk, skateboard or bike ride to and from the bus stop. And yes, you can take your bike or skateboard on the bus. If you're going to the beach, you can also take your surfboard.

HERE'S THE DEAL

Students ride for a quarter from June 1 through September 3. To ride for a quarter, students in grades 1-12 just need to show a school ID from the most recent school year, an RTA Youth ID card, or a California driver's license or state ID showing the student is under 19 years old.

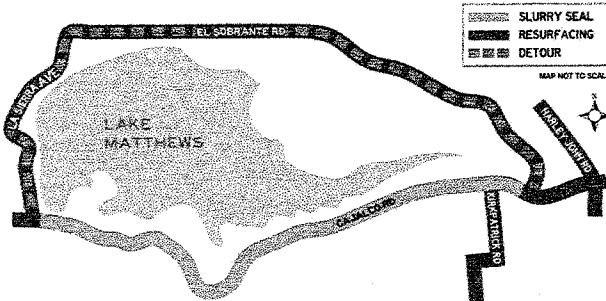


CAJALCO ROAD SLURRY AND RESURFACING PROJECT

CONSTRUCTION START
SUMMER 2016
CONSTRUCTION TIME
5 WEEKS
WORK HOURS
MONDAY - FRIDAY
8AM - 5PM
SATURDAY - SUNDAY
N/A
CONTRACTOR
JEL AMERICAN ASPHALT

The County of Riverside is proposing to Slurry and Resurface a portion of Cajalco Road between La Sierra Rd and Harley John Rd. The Slurry Seal will consist of a Microsurfacing between La Sierra and Kirkpatrick Rd. The Resurfacing will consist of milling the existing pavement and overlaying with new Hot Mix Asphalt.

In order to enhance safety, this project will add a rumble stripe along the center of Cajalco Road and upgrade existing guardrail to the latest "Midwest Guardrail System" between Kirkpatrick Rd and Harley John Rd. The project will also replace existing signs, striping, and pavement markers.



DETOURS

During closures on Cajalco Rd between La Sierra Ave and El Sobrante Rd, one direction of traffic will remain open at all times. The following detours will be utilized during closures:

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| EB Cajalco Rd | WB Cajalco Rd |
| 1. North on La Sierra Ave. | 1. North on El Sobrante Rd. |
| 2. East on El Sobrante Rd. | 2. South on La Sierra Ave. |
| 3. East on Cajalco Rd. | 3. West on Cajalco Rd. |

* Road work east of El Sobrante Rd may require flagging operations at various times throughout the project.

PROJECT INFORMATION

PROJECT CONTACT
Alfredo Martinez
Senior Civil Engineer
951-955-0086
amartinez@rivco.org

WEBSITE
rcprojects.org/cajalco-road-resurfacing

SLIME CLUB

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GAMING TRUCKS

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6:30 AM - 6:30 PM **WARRIOR TIME GYM TOURNAMENT** **FREE LUNCH INCLUDED**

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16275 GRAND AVE	57465 VIA CORDOBA	10560 CAL OAKS RD
LAKE ELSINORE, CA 92530	YUCCA, CA 92592	MURRIETA, CA 92562
951.285.0099	951.695.0181	951.698.3838
JUN 8 - AUG 5	JUN 11 - AUG 5	JUN 18 - AUG 5
WWW.BGCSWC.ORG		

PETER RABBIT
June 30th

PETER RABBIT
BORN TO BE WILD

COCO
July 21st

SUMMER SPLASH
July 21st
Before COCO
From 3:30 - 6:30pm

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In The
Park**

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SUMMER SPLASH

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MARS

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Sender NACD News <nacdnews@nacdn.net.org>
To Temecula–Elsinore–Anza–Murrieta RCD <manager@teamrcd.org>
Date 2018-05-04 06:56



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CONSERVATION CLIPS

brought to you by NACD



Conservation Clips are a weekly collection of articles distributed by NACD that provides our members and partners with the latest news in what's driving conservation. If you have a relevant submission, please contact your NACD Communications Team.

NACD Blog: BLM Releases Wild Horse and Burro Sustainability Report 05/03/18

On April 27, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) released its long-awaited report on a comprehensive plan to address the overpopulation of wild horses and burros on federal lands.

The New York Times: In Fire-Scorched Oklahoma, Help Comes One Bale at a Time

By Mitch Smith
04/29/18

The hay began arriving before the fires were out. For ranchers whose grazing land was destroyed by wildfires that tore across western Oklahoma this month, the cylindrical bales were an economic lifeline, a way to feed cattle marooned on grassless patches of charred red soil.

Minn Post: Grow, don't gut, CSP funding in the Farm Bill By Tara Ritter

04/27/18

(Opinion) To be optimally effective, CSP should be expanded in the Farm Bill. More than half, and up to 75 percent, of all qualified applicants are turned away each year. If the program were adequately funded, more farmers could access the assistance they need to improve their land, water and natural resource base, both for their own benefit and for the greater good of public and environmental health.

Penn Live: One tree planted, another 10 million to go as Pa. initiative begins

By Paul Vigna

04/30/18

National, state and local partners gathered on a Lancaster County farm on April 24 for the announcement of one of Pennsylvania's most ambitious, collaborative and challenging efforts to restore and protect its rivers and streams - the planting of 10 million trees by the end of 2025.

Bay Journal: Bay ag conservation programs await details of pending Farm Bill

By Karl Blankenship

04/30/18

Congress has started to debate how to direct hundreds of billions of dollars to implement the nation's farm and nutrition policies in the coming years, and the outcome could have a major impact on Chesapeake Bay cleanup goals.

NPR: Homes Or Gardens? Developers And Urban Farmers Grapple Over Vacant Land

By Lea Ceasrine

04/28/18

This network of gardens is threatened by housing developers, in part due to a need for affordable housing in the community. A recently completed development plan for Brownsville would add 2,500 affordable units to the neighborhood, built atop dozens of vacant lots. But some of that development would displace gardens — and not all the housing being developed is necessarily affordable.

High Plains/Midwest Ag Journal: Perdue announces additional hurricane and wildfire recovery details

05/02/18

Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue recently announced new details on eligibility for a new U.S. Department of Agriculture disaster program, 2017

Wildfires and Hurricanes Indemnity Program. In total, USDA's Farm Service Agency will deploy up to \$2.36 billion to help producers with recovery of their agricultural operations.

Wisconsin State Farmer: Next Generation in Agriculture Act supports young, beginning farmers
05/01/18

U.S. Senators Susan Collins (R-ME) and Heidi Heitkamp (D-ND) introduced a bipartisan bill on April 26 to support programs that help new and beginning farmers and ranchers enter and remain in the industry, build the next generation of farmers, and feed the country and the world.

The Weather Channel: Hurricanes May Have Moved Invasive Species to New Locations; New USGS Maps Reveal Where
By Pam Wright
04/27/18

Flooding and storm surge from last year's spate of hurricanes not only displaced thousands of people, it may have relocated hundreds of invasive aquatic species to new locations. More than 200 non-native aquatic species, including alligators and snails, may be setting up new residence after hurricanes Harvey, Irma, Maria and Nate.

Aberdeen News: Unlikely partners find common ground in fight against salty soils
By Andrew Johnson
04/27/18

Earlier this year the South Dakota Corn Growers Association and Pheasants Forever both pledged \$100,000 toward a saline soils initiative. As a result, perennial grasses and the resulting wildlife habitat they provide could soon take the place of struggling row crops on white-caked saline soils.

The Seattle Times: New York state giving \$2.2 million for forestry projects
04/28/18

New York state is celebrating Arbor Day in a big way, releasing \$2.2 million in grants for tree planting and community forestry projects across the state.

AP News: Senate votes to nullify Minnesota wild rice water standard
By Steve Karnowski
04/30/18

The Minnesota Senate voted 38-28 Monday to nullify a water quality standard that's meant to protect wild rice, a food central to the culture and

diet of the region's Ojibwe Indians.

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From NACD News <nacdnews@nacdn.net.org>
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Date 2018-05-08 15:11

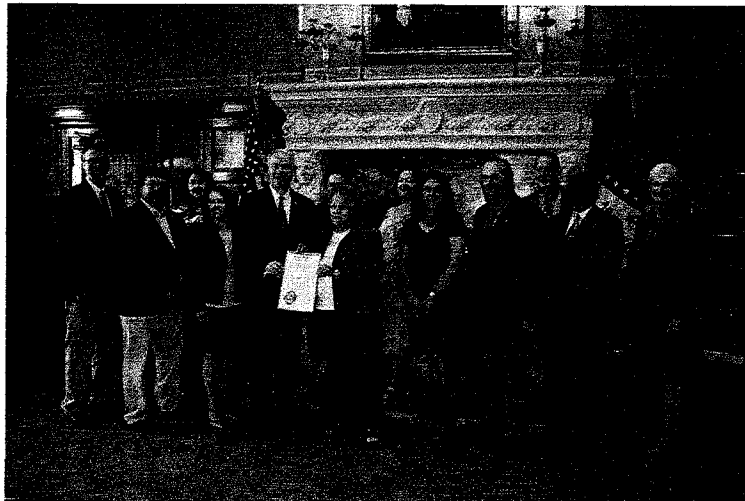


The NACD eResource

Weekly news briefs from the National Association of Conservation Districts

CONSERVATIONISTS OF ALL AGES CELEBRATE STEWARDSHIP WEEK

From April 29 to May 5, districts, state associations and NACD all took part in celebrating the 63rd Annual Stewardship Week and its theme "Watersheds: Our Water, Our Home."



In Arkansas, **Governor Asa Hutchinson** signed a proclamation designating Arkansas Stewardship Week. Pictured are representatives from the Arkansas Association of Conservation Districts (AACD) and their partners – **AACD President Martha Manley** holds the proclamation with the governor.

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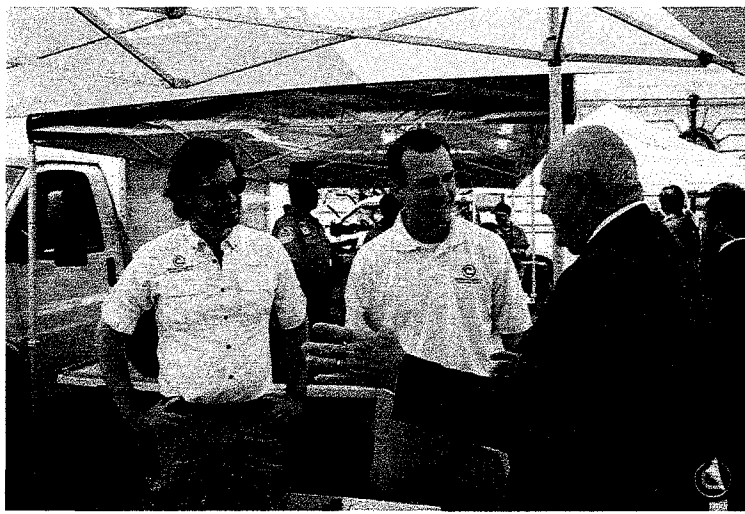
– [Email Us](#)

NACD seeks Annual Meeting theme ideas

NACD is hosting its 73rd Annual Meeting in San Antonio, Texas, from Feb. 2–6. Interested in winning your meeting registration for free? Please submit a 2019 Annual Meeting theme and logo concept by next Thursday, May 17.

Cover crops seminar emphasizes significance of biodiversity

On May 3–4, NACD Northern Plains Region Representative **Laura Demmel** participated in a cover crop seminar in the



On Friday, May 5, NACD staff hosted a booth at the opening of the USDA's Farmers Market in the People's Garden on the National Mall. The staff administered watershed and wetland quizzes, demonstrated nonpoint source pollution with an interactive watershed model from the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District, and were visited by NRCS's mascot Sammy Soil and the Forest Service mascot Woodsy the Owl. USDA leadership stopped by the booth, including **NRCS State Conservationist for Iowa Kurt Simon** and **Secretary Sonny Perdue**, who visited with **NACD CEO Jeremy Peters** and **NACD Northeast Region Representative and Policy Specialist Eric Hansen** (pictured) on the importance of watershed stewardship.

Thank you to all the districts who celebrated Stewardship Week and helped make it successful! You can continue to celebrate the "Watersheds: Our Water, Our Home" theme by participating in [NACD's poster contest](#), which closes December 1. Winners will be announced at our [2019 Annual Meeting](#) in San Antonio, Texas.

NACD GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS UPDATE

As a member of the National Horse & Burro Rangeland Management Coalition, ensuring healthy horses on healthy rangelands is a priority for NACD. On May 3, NACD Director

Willamette Valley hosted by Grasslands Oregon, one of the nation's top wholesale seed breeders of turf, forage and cover crop seed.



The seminar included field tours of cover crop usage and a stop at the Corvallis Plant Materials Center. On the second day, participants heard from a range of speakers on soil health tools and metrics, the ability of cover crops like cereal rye to influence weed suppression and crop growth, and how to utilize the University of Georgia's Cover Crop Nitrogen Availability Calculator to evaluate their cover crops. Attendees also heard from local producers who utilize cover crops on their operations and discussed creating a Cover Crop Council in the West. The seminar emphasized the importance of breeding and utilizing various varieties of cover crops, and the trip concluded with a tour of Grassland Oregon's research farm.

of Government Affairs Coleman Garrison penned a blog on the Bureau of Land Management's Wild Horse and Burro Sustainability Report to Congress, describing the steps to address the unsustainable number of animals on federal lands.

On May 4, NACD sent a letter to Senate Agriculture Committee leadership urging them to support full baseline funding for the Conservation Title in the next farm bill. NACD has received indications that the Senate draft of the farm bill should be expected in the next few weeks; the House Committee on Agriculture's 2018 Farm Bill is expected to be taken up on the House floor next week.

Earlier today, the Trump Administration submitted to Congress a list of programs that they would like to see Congress rescind funds from. This included \$144 million in unobligated balances of the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) from FY 2014 through FY 2017, \$50 million from the Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations program from FY 2017, and \$107 million in unobligated balances appropriated in FY 2013 for the Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) program in response to Hurricane Sandy. Congress now has 45 days to respond to the request before it expires.

NACD AND SOUTHEAST REGION ANNOUNCE SUMMER MEETING SPEAKER LINE-UP

NACD's 2018 Summer Conservation Forum and Tour and Southeast Region Meeting, held Aug. 3 -7 in Williamsburg, Va., is quickly approaching. NACD and the Southeast Region have prepared a week full of informative speakers, engaging tours, breakout sessions, networking and more! [Click here to register](#) - you won't want to miss out.



11 states name Envirothon winners

Envirothon season is in full swing, with numerous states naming their winning teams in recent weeks. Congratulations to the following teams, who will represent their states July 22-28 in Idaho for the international NCF-Envirothon competition:

- Kansas-Clay Center High School
- North Carolina-Stanley Montgomery Home School Association's "Yellow Poplars"
- Florida-North Bay Haven Charter Academy
- New Jersey-West Windsor-Plainsboro High School North
- Mississippi-Oxford High School
- Arkansas-Haas Hall Academy
- Missouri-Pembroke Hill
- Indiana-Rossville High School Team Hannah
- Arizona-Tri City College Prep High School
- Iowa-Des Moines High School
- South Dakota-Milbank

Monday's general session will feature a keynote speech from recently confirmed **USDA Under Secretary Bill Northey**. Northey is a former district commissioner for Dickinson County SWCD in Iowa and previously served as the state's Secretary of Agriculture. Under Secretary Northey will oversee USDA's farm production and conservation mission area, which includes the Farm Services Agency (FSA), the Risk Management Agency (RMA) and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).



Mississippi forest landowner and Georgia Association of Conservation Districts (GACD) Program Assistant **Vickie Roberts-Ratliff** will be one of the keynote speakers for Tuesday's general session. Roberts-Ratliff is a sixth-generation landowner in Mississippi, where she and her mother own property designated as an agroforestry demonstration site. In her work with GACD, Roberts-Ratliff assists landowners, especially female and African-American landowners, with conservation practices and forest management plans. Learn more about Roberts-Ratliff in this NACD Forestry Notes [feature article](#).



[Click here](#) to read the full line-up of speakers, including confirmed and invited speakers, on NACD's website. Visit the [Summer Meeting webpage](#) to learn more about the agenda, tour options and hotel accommodations.



High School

The international competition in Pocatello welcomes student competitors across the globe for the opportunity to test their skills, network and learn! If you're interested in assisting the Idaho Envirothon Committee as a volunteer, [please fill out this form](#). Volunteers share their natural resources expertise, inspire and motivate others, help serve as preliminary presentation judges, timers, hall monitors, team buddies and more.

SHI conducting North American soil health study

The Soil Health Institute is seeking individuals and organizations in North America to participate in an evaluation of soil health measurements and their impact on yield, economics and ecosystems. To be eligible, a site must have engaged in at least 10 years of continuous land use treatments in a statistically valid experimental design. For more information and to complete the online application form, [click here](#).

GREENE COUNTY SWCD, MISSOURI

In 2016, NACD and NRCS selected the Greene County SWCD in Missouri as one of the recipients of the inaugural Urban Agriculture Conservation Grant Initiative. Through this award, Greene County SWCD provided funds to the Springfield Community Gardens (SCG) to create a working urban market garden in Springfield's under-resourced Zone 1 district. Within six months, community members, students and partners helped create a green, food-filled oasis in the middle of the Grant Beach neighborhood.

The garden acts as a center of educational opportunities, technical assistance and sustainable production located at a former elementary school turned community center. Using help from over 286 volunteers giving over 830 hours of service, the space now has 34 in-ground beds in production, totaling approximately 3,725 square feet of bed space.

A graphic of a white rectangular sign with a torn top edge. The words "NOW" and "HIRING" are written in large, bold, black, sans-serif capital letters, stacked vertically. A thin black curved line is drawn below the word "HIRING".

**NOW
HIRING**

Sussex CD seeks conservation planner

The Sussex Conservation District (SCD) in Georgetown, Del., is currently seeking an agricultural conservation planner. This position, funded by NACD's Technical Assistance Grants, will educate and assist landowners with implementing nutrient management strategies and best management practices. [Click here](#) to read the full position description; applications will be accepted until Wednesday, May 16.

A graphic of a white rectangular sign with a torn top edge. The words "Important" and "DATES!" are written in a bold, black, sans-serif font, slanted upwards to the right. "DATES!" is in a larger font size than "Important".

**Important
DATES!**

Mark your calendars: May U&C webinar

The next NACD Urban and Community Conservation webinar, scheduled for May 17 from 12:00 p.m.–1:00 p.m. EDT, will look at how districts gather and use input from constituents to



SCG also uses the space to serve the community, hosting free educational workshops on gardening and conservation topics for approximately 270 community members. SCG has provided technical assistance and resources to a network of 23 community gardens, as well as school gardens and neighbors.

Produce grown at the SCG Market Garden has several outlets, including the weekly C-Street City Market, also located in Zone 1. The weekly contact with market patrons allows connection with even more people about ways to get involved with SCG through gardens, education or events. Produce is also sold to area restaurants, neighbors and others, and is donated to community dinners, local food distributions and volunteers.

guide their programs. The Laramie County Conservation District in Wyoming will describe their state's public input process and why it is important for districts that deal with federal land management agencies. The Maine Association of Conservation Districts will share the steps of their 2016 Conservation Partnership's Natural Resource Assessment, its results and how the data was used by districts.

These popular webinars, held on the third Thursday of each month, are sponsored by The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company in partnership with the NACD Urban and Community Resource Policy Group. There is no cost to participate, but space is limited. Registration will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis. To register, email Debra Bogar at deb-bogar@nacdn.org with your name, title, district or business name, state and email address. Information to access the webinar will be sent by email.

NACD Events Calendar

For additional details regarding meetings listed below, [click here](#).

- Northern Plains Leaders Meeting - June 4 - 6
- Northeast Region Meeting - July 15 - 18

The SCG Market Garden has been a successful and valuable addition to a neighborhood being revitalized through grassroots efforts focusing on food, wellness, access to resources and community building. Learn more about the other 2016 NACD Urban Agriculture Conservation Grant award recipient projects [on our website](#).

- NACD Summer Meeting -
Aug. 3 - 8
-

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To: Temecula-Elsinore-Anza-Murrieta RCD <manager@teamrcd.org>

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The RPG is now seeking your input for the series beginning in October 2018. Help us design webinars that help you! Please take a moment to:

1. Offer to give a presentation; send in a brief paragraph describing the program/project that you would like to showcase, and/or
2. Tell us the urban and community conservation topics/issues and/or speakers you would like to have covered.

Send your proposals and topic/speaker ideas to Deb Bogar by June 30, 2018.

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Conservation Clips are a weekly collection of articles distributed by NACD that provides our members and partners with the latest news in what's driving conservation. If you have a relevant submission, please contact your NACD Communications Team.

NACD Blog: [Wyoming partners pool resources with NWTF](#)

In 2013, the National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF), Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS), Wyoming State Forestry Department and Weston County Natural Resource District joined forces to combat the mountain pine beetle before it destroyed Black Hills Forest. Now, the partnership is reaching further into privately-owned forest land, providing a variety of forestry management options and opening doors to new funding.

NACD Blog: [Districts Bring the Pieces Together](#)

Several years ago, Doug Rushton had an idea. Some conservation districts in his home state of Washington had a forester on staff, but others did not. What if those without could borrow the neighboring district's forester? What if Washington's conservation districts could share resources to get more work done?

NACD Blog: [Several South Dakota partners contribute to shared forester position](#)

A shared position held and administered by the National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF) in South Dakota is providing an extra set of hands to help Custer County Conservation District (CCCD) and other area conservation agencies implement forestry programs while also meeting NWTF habitat objectives.

Agri-Pulse: House spending bill repeals Obama WOTUS rule

By Philip Brasher

05/06/18

A draft fiscal 2019 spending bill for the Army Corps of Engineers would repeal the Obama-era waters of the United States rule, ensuring it can't take effect while the Trump administration finishes developing a replacement.

NewsOK: Preliminary ranching costs for April's wildfires tops \$26 million

By Jack Money

05/08/18

Losses sustained by ranchers from April wildfires that burned through parts of Dewey and Woodward counties in west-central and northwest Oklahoma are estimated at more than \$26 million.

Civil Eats: Farm Runoff in U.S. Waters Has Hit Crisis Levels. Are Farmers Ready to Change?

By Virginia Gewin

05/08/18

Across farm country, local and state governments, federal regulatory agencies and farm groups are searching for lasting strategies to keep farm nutrients out of waterways. But despite a robust combination of incentives or "carrots," such as subsidies and cost-sharing programs, and increasingly, regulation, the problem remains dire.

Des Moines Register: Conservation and cover crops: a landowner's view

By Lee S. Tesdell

05/07/18

(Opinion) Since more than 50 percent of Iowa farm ground is rented, both landowners and operators have to buy in to conservation to reach the goals of Iowa's Nutrient Reduction Strategy — reducing nitrogen and phosphorus loads leaving our watersheds by 45 percent.

AP News: Outlook for vital Southwestern US river remains grim

By Dan Elliott

05/07/18

The outlook for the most important river in the Southwestern U.S. remains grim this summer after April storms failed to produce much snow in the mountains that feed the waterway. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said the Colorado River is expected to carry only 43 percent of the average amount of water into Lake Powell, one of two huge reservoirs that store and distribute the river.

Circle Ranch: The Last Cowboy at Pine Creek Ranch

By Chris Gill

05/07/18

(Opinion) The public should insist that the full complement of wild animals including predators be returned to the public lands, and that grazing practices be implemented to improve wildlife habitat.

Press Herald: Vermont joins quarantine to fight spread of emerald ash borer

05/08/18

Vermont is the latest state to join a 31-state quarantine put in place to prevent the spread of the non-native emerald ash borer. Under the quarantine, ash wood may not be transported from Vermont to Rhode Island, Maine or seven counties in New Hampshire.

Agri-Pulse: Lawmakers briefed on potentially record-breaking 2018 wildfire season

By Daniel Enoch

05/10/18

USDA chief Sonny Perdue and Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke on Thursday told a score of lawmakers, mostly from Western states, to prepare for what could be another record-setting wildfire season. While the lawmakers present at the meeting generally were in favor of the funding fix, many expressed concerns about the lack of progress in government efforts to remove the dead and dying timber that is fueling most of the wildfires.

Popular Science: Invasive treefrogs have snuck into Louisiana and they are not good neighbors

By Kate Baggaley

05/03/18

Cuban treefrogs have been displacing the native treefrogs in Florida and are likely to do the same in Louisiana.

OPB: Study: Wildfires Burn More Severely On Private Timber Plantations Than Public Forests

By Jes Burns

05/05/18

"Management and forest age were really important, but oddly enough how much biomass was there before the fire was not important," Zald said. In fact, he found that the private timberland in the Douglas Complex burned 30 percent more severely than the public lands.

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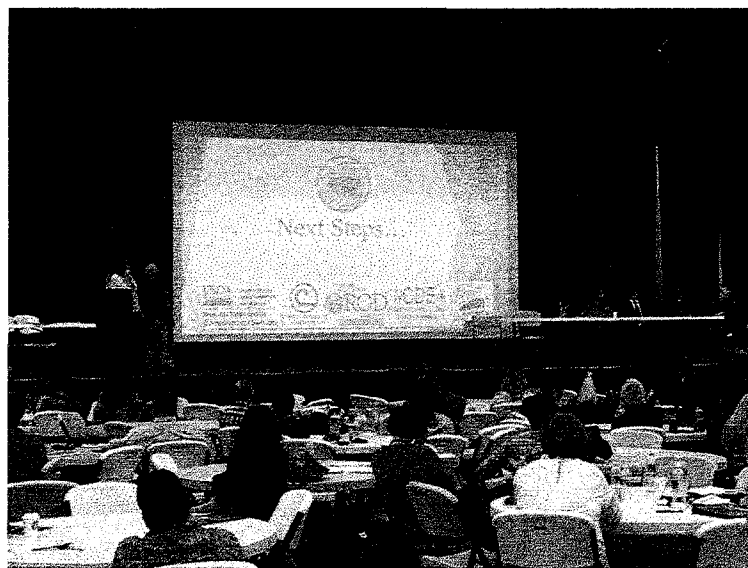


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Weekly news briefs from the National Association of Conservation Districts

NACD PARTICIPATES IN WASHINGTON NCPP LISTENING SESSION

On May 10 – 11, NACD Second Vice President Michael Crowder participated in the National Conservation Planning Partnership (NCPP)'s fourth listening session in Leavenworth, Wash. Crowder presented results from a survey conducted by NACD and the partnership.



During Wednesday's group presentations and discussion, the partnership, which consists of the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD), the Natural

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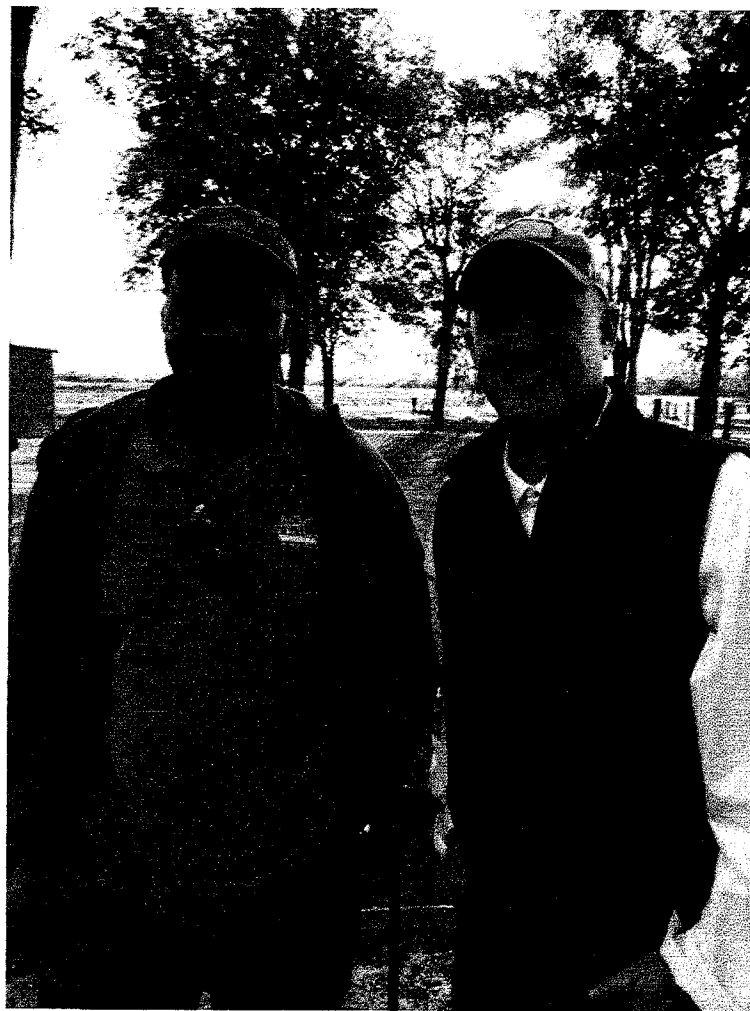
Annual Meeting theme ideas due Thursday

NACD is hosting its 73rd Annual Meeting in San Antonio, Texas, from Feb. 2–6. Interested in winning your meeting registration for free? Please [submit a 2019 Annual Meeting theme](#) and logo concept by Thursday, May 17.

International NCF- Envirothon competition nears

From July 22–27, students and advisers of winning teams from across the United States, Canada and China will assemble at

Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), the National Conservation District Employees Association (NCDEA), the National Association of State Conservation Agencies (NASCA) and the National Association of Resource Conservation and Development Councils (NARC&DC), heard local concerns about nationwide staffing shortages and identified trainings that need to happen to better prioritize conservation planning. Staff from nearly every NRCS field office in Washington state participated in the listening session.



On Thursday, tour participants learned about local water savings projects, as well as lamprey and sturgeon restoration efforts by the Yakama tribe. The final stop of the day was held at Crowder's Barker Ranch, where he discussed his ongoing wetland and wildlife habitat restoration projects. Crowder (pictured at right with **NRCS Acting Chief Leonard Jordan**), who serves as chair of NACD's Tribal Outreach and Partnership Resource Policy

Idaho State University in Pocatello, Idaho, for the 2018 international National Conservation Foundation (NCF) Envirothon competition.

The annual NCF-Envirothon competition is North America's largest high school environmental education contest. Students will compete for recognition and scholarships by demonstrating their knowledge of environmental science and natural resource management throughout the week-long competition. The planned events are designed to test students' knowledge on wildlife, soils and land use, aquatic ecology, forestry and western rangelands.



Each year, a specified topic is selected by the host state, typically a relevant environmental issue area to the region. Idaho's topic focuses on western rangeland management to give students insight on the importance of western rangelands and the need for balance in management planning. When they're not competing, practicing, or trading apparel from home,

Group (RPG), described the RPG's work and emphasized the significance of partnership.

SUMMER MEETING BOASTS FOUR DISTINCT TOUR TRACKS

Have you completed your registration for NACD's 2018 Summer Conservation Forum and Tour and Southeast Region Meeting? Held Aug. 3 -7 in Williamsburg, Va., the summer meeting boasts four different tour themes on a variety of topics. Complete your registration today to secure your spot on one of the following Tuesday, Aug. 7 tours:

Agriculture: The agriculture tour will visit east central Virginia farms that have successfully implemented conservation practices while remaining profitable. The first stop will be at Upper Shirley Vineyards, next door to the historic Shirley Plantation, the oldest family-owned business in North America. Participants will also stop at Renwood Fields, the current world record holder for corn yield, which uses innovative precision technology. Attendees will also participate in a drone demonstration and tour a tractor museum.

Education and coastal: Tour attendees will visit the Virginia Watermen's Museum in Yorktown, Va., where they'll learn how the Chesapeake Bay Watermen have played a part in shaping our nation since pre-colonial times. The tour also includes a stop at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS), one of the largest marine research and education centers in the United States. Participants will visit the VIMS teaching marsh to learn how wetlands can improve water quality in nearby waterways.

Urban and forestry: The urban and forestry tour will feature a variety of speakers from the Department of Forestry, the Virginia Forestry Association and the New Kent Forestry Center. Attendees will learn about forest biotechnology, including genetic research, as well as urban issues and the Virginia Conservation Assistance Program.

the competing teams will have a chance to tour the Gem State (pictured)! Students will visit an Idaho Potato Farm, see a geyser, spend time on a settlement that was part of the Oregon Trail, experience western themed activities, and have a cookout.

The competition is right around the corner, and all the students have worked hard to get to this point. Best of luck to all the teams competing in their state or province competitions, we look forward to seeing everyone in July!

Call for urban and community conservation webinar presentations

Since 2012, the NACD Urban and Community Resource Policy Group (RPG) has partnered with The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company in offering monthly NACD Urban and Community Conservation webinars. These popular webinars have covered a variety of urban and community conservation topics with districts and businesses sharing their projects, programs and resources. They are held 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. ET on the third Thursday of each month. View a full list of past webinars, as well as links to presentation PDFs and archived webinar recordings on NACD's website.

Historical: The historical tour will feature stops in historic Jamestown and the National Park Service's Glasshouse. Meeting-goers will have a guided tour of the first successful English colony in North America, view archaeological investigations and the archaeology museum, and witness glassblowing utilizing the same techniques and tools employed in 1608.

To read the full tour descriptions, please [click here](#). Information on summer meeting speakers, transportation, the agenda, accommodations and more is available on our [Summer Meeting webpage](#).

NACD GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS UPDATE

On Friday, May 11, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Sonny Perdue named Richard Fordyce as administrator of the Farm Service Agency (FSA). FSA, which has jurisdiction over the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), is part of USDA's farm production and conservation (FPAC) mission area led by Under Secretary Bill Northey.

Later this week, the U.S. House of Representatives is anticipated to take up the House version of the 2018 Farm Bill (H.R. 2). NACD is monitoring potential amendments and will send out grassroots alerts if needed so you can reach out to your Members of Congress. [Click here](#) to sign up for NACD's grassroots alerts, and [click here](#) to view NACD's recently launched farm bill webpage.

The House Appropriations Committee is also taking action on two appropriations bills which fund the USDA and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The full House Committee is expected to vote on its Fiscal Year 2019 Agriculture Appropriations Bill tomorrow. The bill includes \$890 million for Conservation Operations, which is above NACD's request, \$150 million for the Watershed Program, and does not include any reductions in funding for farm bill

The RPG is now seeking your input for the series beginning in October 2018. Help us design webinars that help you! Please take a moment to:

1. Offer to give a presentation, and/or
2. Tell us the urban and community conservation topics/issues and/or speakers you would like to have covered.

Send a brief paragraph describing the programs, projects or speakers you would like to see showcased to [Deb Bogar](#) by June 30.



Funding opportunity deadlines approaching

USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is seeking proposals to assist with restoration work of degraded wetlands, floodplains and forestlands. [Click here](#) to learn more; applications must be received by this Friday, May 18 at 5:00 p.m. EDT.

NRCS is seeking [Conservation Innovation Grants \(CIG\) proposals](#) to

programs. The Interior and Environment Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee is also considering its bill, which funds the U.S. Forest Service and EPA's 319 grant program. [Click here](#) to view NACD's appropriations requests.

address local or state-level natural resource concerns in Iowa, Kentucky, Connecticut, Maryland and the Caribbean Area. Contact your state or territory's NRCS office for more information.

NACD Events Calendar

For additional details regarding meetings listed below, [click here](#).

- Northern Plains Leaders Meeting - June 4 - 6
 - Northeast Region Meeting - July 15 - 18
 - NACD Summer Meeting - Aug. 3 - 8
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Agri-Pulse: White House backs House farm bill

By Philip Brasher

05/15/18

The White House has endorsed the House farm bill ahead of a contentious floor debate, saying the legislation would provide certainty to farmers while imposing "common-sense work requirements" on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

Corn and Soybean Digest: Wait, there's profit in conservation practices?

By Kurt Lawton

05/11/18

(Opinion) I doubt too many farmers have a budget line item for conservation practices. Farmers have a tough time with the profitability question, as real data is difficult to find and hard to measure when you're trying to improve such things as soil erosion, soil health, water quality and such.

Capital Press: Editorial: Time has come for solving wild horse problem

05/10/18

(Opinion) The BLM has come up with a plan — actually, four plans — for reducing the wild horse population to 26,715, which they figure is a manageable and sustainable number.

Agri-Pulse: House panel clears bills to fund USDA, FDA, Corps

By Steve Davies

05/16/18

The “Waters of the U.S.” rule promulgated by the Obama Administration would be repealed in one of two spending bills approved by the House Appropriations Committee Wednesday. The committee also approved a spending bill to fund the Agriculture Department and the Food and Drug Administration.

The Wall Street Journal: Farmers Across High Plains Brace for Hard Times as Drought Bears Down

By Jim Carlton

05/13/18

After three fairly wet years, a drought ranging from “severe” to “exceptional” has descended on the southern Great Plains of Colorado, Kansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas. Home to one of the nation’s most fertile farming areas—crop production in the Texas region alone generates about \$12 billion in economic activity—observers say the drought could punish the agricultural sector, affecting everything from cotton to cattle to farming-equipment sales.

Reuters: Senate aims to finish bipartisan farm bill in June

05/15/18

Democratic Senator Amy Klobuchar said on Tuesday that the U.S. Senate expects to finish a bipartisan farm bill sometime in June.

Austin American-Statesman: Texas Digest: Wildfires rage in Panhandle

05/13/18

Firefighters in the Texas Panhandle are working to contain a wildfire that has blackened more than 69,000 acres.

NWI.com: Cover crops now third to only corn and soybeans in Indiana

By Joseph S. Peter

05/15/18

Indiana farmers, who recently started putting their spring crops in the ground, planted nearly a million acres of cover crops last year. Cover crops have taken off so much in popularity in Indiana that they're now the third-

most planted crop after corn and soybeans.

Napa Valley Register: Gov. Brown orders state to reduce wildfire danger

By Peter Fimrite

05/11/18

The executive order will launch a slate of projects to improve forest conditions and increase fire protection, including a doubling of the amount of land managed by controlled burns, tree thinning and other forest-management tactics.

Phys.Org: Caterpillar 'road rage' could affect migration

By Beth Gavrilles

05/10/18

Monarch butterfly caterpillars living next to roads may be stressed by the sound of passing cars and trucks, according to a new study. With roadsides increasingly promoted as sites for pollinator habitat, the findings could have serious implications for monarch butterfly conservation.

Wisconsin State Farmer: Do cover crops pay for themselves?

By Heidi Johnson

05/14/18

(Opinion) As with other production practices that improve the health and structure of our soil (like no-till), it takes a few years of implementation before you start to see definable economic benefits. And with the current lack of profit margins in all agricultural enterprises, any practice that will cost farmers more money in the short-term is a tough sell.

Capital Press: State says wolf recovery plan working, halfway to delisting

By Matthew Weaver

05/09/18

Washington Fish and Wildlife officials say the state's wolf recovery plan is working and halfway to completion. Once population targets are reached, managers can lift protection for the wolves as an endangered species.

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Weekly news briefs from the National Association of Conservation Districts

NACD AND USDA LEADERSHIP DISCUSS PARTNERSHIP, CONSERVATION

On Monday, May 14, NACD President Brent Van Dyke participated in a roundtable with U.S. Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue, Governor Susana Martinez, New Mexico Secretary of Agriculture Jeff Witte and other state agriculture leaders in Santa Fe, N.M.



Van Dyke described the meeting as positive, saying the conversation centered around the conservation partnership and the ongoing work they accomplish with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). The roundtable discussion is part of Secretary

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**NACD's offices closed
Monday**

NACD's offices will be closed Monday, May 28 in observance of Memorial Day.



**NACD welcomes summer
intern**

Perdue's fourth "Back to Our Roots" tour, which also included stops in Colorado, Wyoming and Nebraska.

SUMMER MEETING FEATURES WIDE RANGE OF CONCURRENT SESSION TOPICS

NACD and the Southeast Region will offer a wide range of concurrent session topics during the 2018 Conservation Forum and Tour and Southeast Region Meeting in Williamsburg, Va. On Monday, Aug. 6 meeting attendees will learn how to work with rural landowners, hear about educational outreach strategies, and receive updates on Virginia's urban agriculture conservation grant recipients' projects.

Other featured topics include:

- Forestry and the next generation
- The Virginia Conservation Assistance Program
- Soil health
- Envirothon
- The Chesapeake Bay
- The Regional Conservation Partnership Program
- Oyster habitat restoration
- The Resource Stewardship Evaluation Tool
- Tribal partnerships

Read full descriptions of the concurrent sessions, as well as moderators and featured speakers, by [clicking here](#). Visit the [summer meeting webpage](#) to learn more about the agenda, accommodations, keynote speakers, tour options and more!

FARM BILL UPDATE

On Friday, May 18, the U.S. House of Representatives voted to defeat the Agriculture and Nutrition Act of 2018 (H.R. 2).

"Farmers and ranchers across the country utilize farm bill conservation programs on



On Monday, NACD welcomed a summer intern, **Katrina Vaitkus**, to the Washington, D.C., office. Vaitkus is a senior at the University of Maryland studying environmental science and policy with a concentration in agriculture. She calls Edgewater, Md., her hometown, and says that growing up by the water influenced her love of the environment. Vaitkus previously worked at the Beltsville Agriculture Research Center, where she decided to pursue a career in agricultural and environmental policy. "I am extremely excited to begin my internship at NACD, and I cannot wait to learn about and experience the many different aspects of the work done here," Vaitkus said.

Recognize a friend of pollinators

The Pollinator Partnership (P2) and NACD are seeking nominations for the 2018 Farmer-Rancher Pollinator Conservation Awards. These awards recognize an individual or family in the

their operations every day to preserve natural resources for future generations,” **NACD President Brent Van Dyke said.** “With just over four months before the current farm bill expires, Congress must come together to protect America’s producers.” Read NACD’s statement on the farm bill vote by [clicking here](#).

In the coming weeks, the Senate Agriculture Committee is expected to introduce their version of the farm bill for consideration. Stay tuned to future editions of eResource for updates, and make sure you’re subscribed to our [Grassroots Advocacy mailing list](#) to receive alerts. Keep up-to-date on the farm bill by [clicking here](#).

CONSERVATION PLANNING BOOT CAMP SPACES AVAILABLE

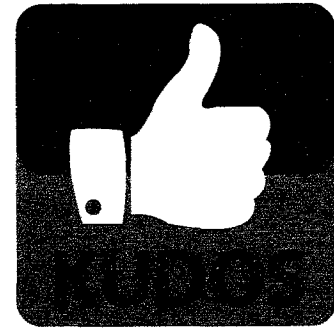
Space is still available in the July session of Conservation Planning Boot Camp (CPBC) for district and tribal district employees. All expenses incurred for attending CPBC will be reimbursable by NACD.



Zachary Traylor, soil conservation technician for the Franklin County Conservation District in Kentucky, attended the April session of CPBC.

“At first, I was leery of going to Conservation Boot Camp,” **Traylor said.** “I am pleased to say that all my doubts dissolved once I got to Lincoln. The three-week training

farm and ranch community who has contributed significantly to the protection of pollinators on their farm and/or in the farming community. [Click here](#) to learn more and download a nomination form; nominations are due Friday, July 6.



Four more teams advance to NCF-Envirothon

State and provincial Envirothon competitions are underway across North America and four more teams have reached their goals of qualifying for the [2018 international NCF-Envirothon competition](#) held this summer at Idaho State University.



Congratulations to Utah’s **Snow Canyon High School 4-H team**; New Brunswick’s **Stanley Consolidated School team** (pictured); Oregon’s **Sutherlin High School FFA team**; and Kentucky’s **Paul Laurence Dunbar High**

combines a hands-on look at planning in the field with exploring the documents that go along with planning process.

“Beyond that, I was able to meet people from all walks of life across the United States and create bonds that will last forever. Conservation Boot Camp has instilled a sense of confidence in my planning capabilities and I would recommend this experience to anyone who has an interest in advancing their career and knowledge base.”

Interested in learning more? Visit our Conservation Planning Boot Camp web page where you'll find eligibility requirements, application details, frequently asked questions and more. All employee nominations for the July CPBC session must be received by May 29.

School team! These four teams will join the two-dozen other qualifying state and province teams for the Pocatello, Idaho, competition, this July 22 - 28.

NACD Events Calendar

For additional details regarding meetings listed below, [click here](#).

- Northern Plains Leaders Meeting - June 4 - 6
- Northeast Region Meeting - July 15 - 18
- NACD Summer Meeting - Aug. 3 - 8

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CONSERVATION CLIPS

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Conservation Clips are a weekly collection of articles distributed by NACD that provides our members and partners with the latest news in what's driving conservation. If you have a relevant submission, please contact your NACD Communications Team.

Agri-Pulse: Opinion: Reconsidering the Rescission Package

By Bruce Knight

05/24/18

(Opinion) The rescission package the Administration recently proposed would make significant cuts in funding that Congress has authorized for important agricultural conservation programs administered by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). These monies are not spare change but precious dollars the agency intends to use to address a backlog of pending conservation requests. The funds need to be preserved and reserved for conservation— not returned to the federal treasury.

CNBC: Farm bill to get second vote in US House in June: Roll Call

05/22/18

The U.S. House of Representatives will vote for a second time on a massive farm bill after the measure was defeated last week. The vote on the \$867 billion bill will be held on June 22, Republican Representative Steve Scalise said.

Agri-Pulse: Senate appropriators OK ag, energy and water bills

By Steve Davies

05/24/18

The Senate Appropriations Committee approved bills to fund the USDA, FDA and Army Corps of Engineers that steer clear of environmental issues addressed by the House's versions of those same spending bills.

St. Louis Post-Dispatch: Robot weed killers poised to disrupt U.S. agriculture

By Ludwig Burger and Tom Polansek

05/22/18

Undergoing final tests before the liquid is replaced with weedkiller, the Swiss robot is one of a new breed of AI weeders that could disrupt the \$100 billion pesticides and seeds industry by reducing the need for universal herbicides and the genetically modified (GM) crops that tolerate them.

Agri-Pulse: Opinion: Tribes focus on the Farm Bill, Agriculture

By Marshall Matz

05/22/18

(Opinion) Indian Tribes in the heartland have focused on the opportunities presented by the farm bill in a more organized way than ever before. To help Native American communities shape this massive legislation, the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community commissioned the Regaining Our Future report to analyze the risks and opportunities for Indian Country in the 2018 Farm Bill.

Newsweek: Scientists find 'major change' in freshwater caused by agriculture, climate

By Meghan Bartels

05/17/18

The study looks at freshwater between 2002 and 2016 and suggests that water distribution is becoming more extreme—places that used to have more water have even more water, and places that used to have less water have even less water.

High Plains Journal: Twenty-six years later: How one Kansas farmer became a convert and saved his soil

By Amy Bickel

05/21/18

His mission is to eliminate erosion and rebuild soil health. The journey, he said, hasn't been easy. But Swanson sees changes across his fields. He uses fewer inputs. His soils are healthier. When he began no-tilling in the

early 1990s, organic matter was at 1.9 percent. Today, it measures about 3 percent.

Delta Farm Press: Pete Hunter notes changes in equipment, chemicals and farm policy

By Ron Smith

05/04/18

Administrative transformation, he explains, moves control of conservation programs from a state or local level to Washington to be approved. "We need to send conservation back to the control of the state conservationist," he says.

The Washington Post: Maryland begins program to replenish freshwater mussels

By Liz Bowie

05/19/18

The little known or appreciated mussel lies in stream bottoms for most of its life, out of sight and growing slowly for decades. This year, though, it's getting attention from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and a couple of biologists-- who value mussels for keeping water clean and giving life to other species --and are attempting for the first time to grow tens of thousands in a hatchery.

DTN The Progressive Farmer: Hopes for El Nino by Autumn; No Easing Of Southwest Drought

By Bryce Anderson

05/25/18

The harsh drought over the southwestern U.S. is expected to last through most of the summer. More than two-thirds of the southwestern U.S. is already in some stage of drought; close to 40% of the region is in "extreme" or "exceptional" drought.

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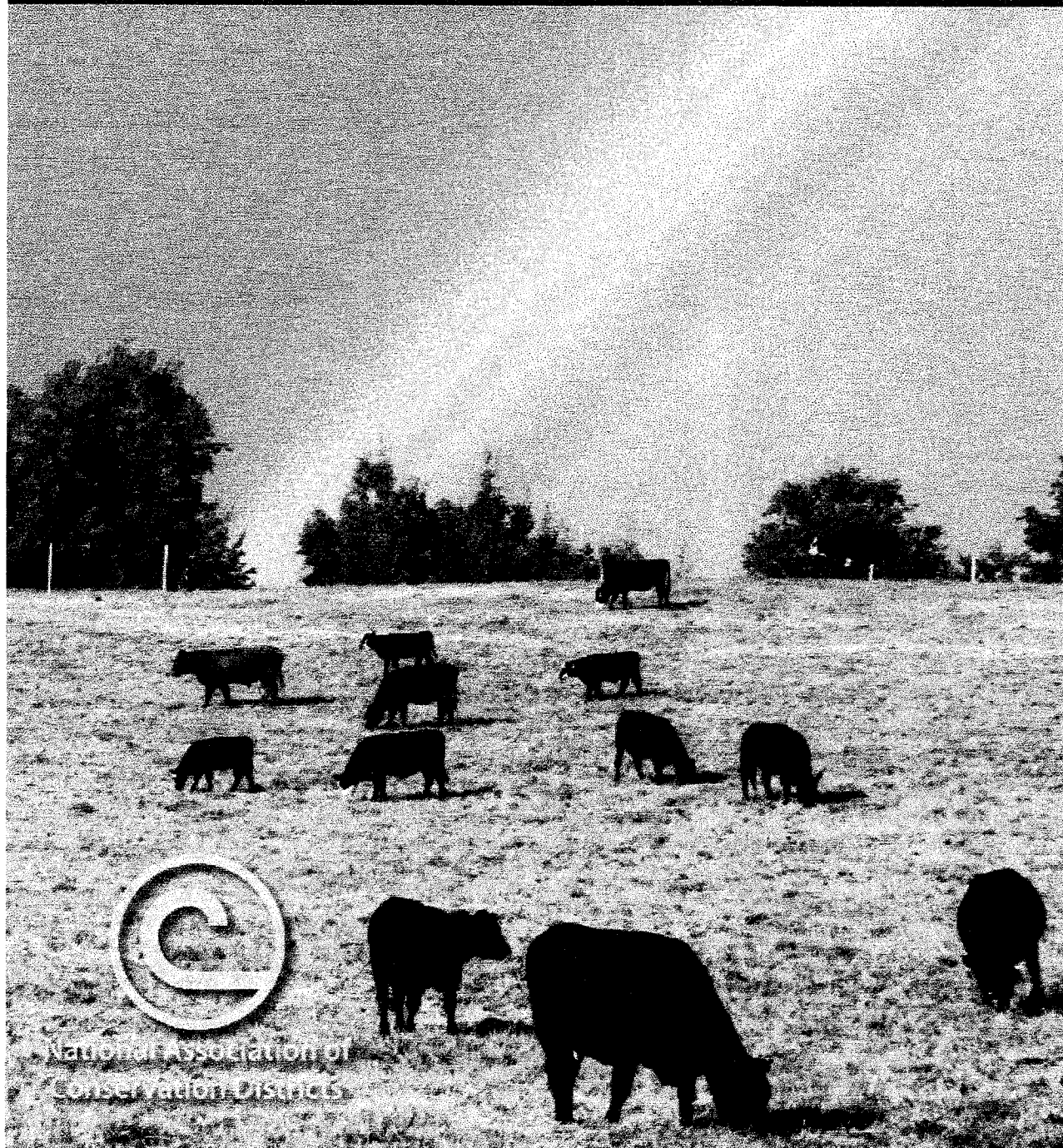


Good afternoon NACD members and partners,

NACD is excited to announce the release of the 2018 spring edition of *The Resource*.

The Resource

Spring 2018



This edition includes letters from **President Brent Van Dyke** and **CEO Jeremy Peters**, an in-depth government affairs update, and recaps from the 73rd Annual Meeting in Nashville, Tenn., and the 63rd Annual Stewardship Week.

You will also find information about NACD's partnership with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to award \$9 million in technical assistance awards, the National Conservation Planning Partnership (NCP) Listening Sessions, and a 2016 Urban Agriculture Report.

Conservation districts across the nation have been hard at work this year. These folks are the boots on the ground and are making an impact every single day within their local communities. The spring edition of *The Resource* features inspiring stories that range from an Alabama tribe putting conservation on the ground to an Ohio district's effort to educate the community about water quality.

You can read the latest edition by clicking here, or you can browse past editions here on our website. If you have any questions or comments about this issue, or ideas for the next edition, please let us know. If you need help printing this issue, please contact NACD Communications Manager Sara Kangas at sara-kangas@nacdnet.org.

Lastly, be sure to subscribe to all of our other publications and follow us on social media to stay up to date on all the latest happenings with NACD.

Sincerely,

Your NACD Team



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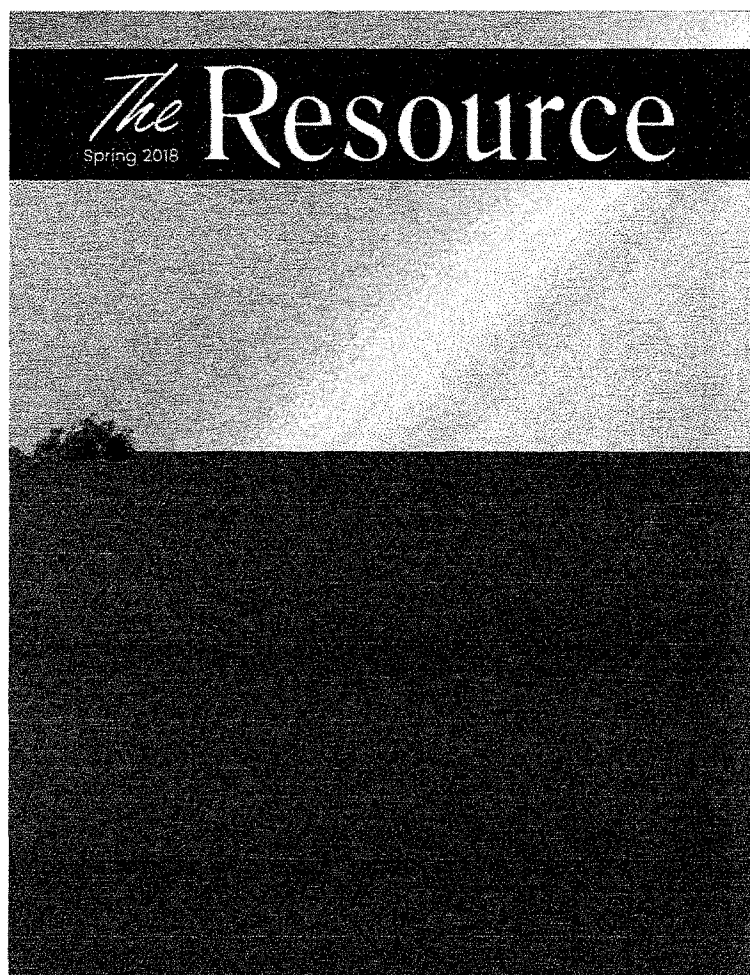


The NACD eResource

Weekly news briefs from the National Association of Conservation Districts

NACD PUBLISHES SPRING EDITION OF THE RESOURCE

NACD is excited to announce the release of the 2018 spring edition of *The Resource*.



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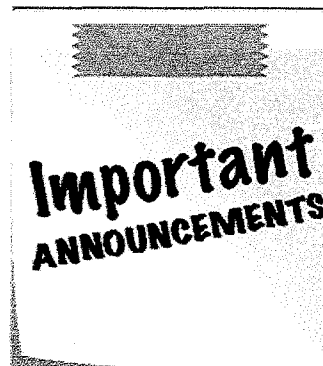
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**NACD Northeast Region
meeting registration opens**

Registration is now open
for the 2018 NACD
Northeast Regional
Meeting, held July 15-17 at
the DoubleTree Resort by
Hilton Hotel in Lancaster
County, Penn.

This edition includes letters from **President Brent Van Dyke** and **CEO Jeremy Peters**, an in-depth government affairs update, and recaps from the 73rd Annual Meeting in Nashville, Tenn., and the 63rd Annual Stewardship Week.

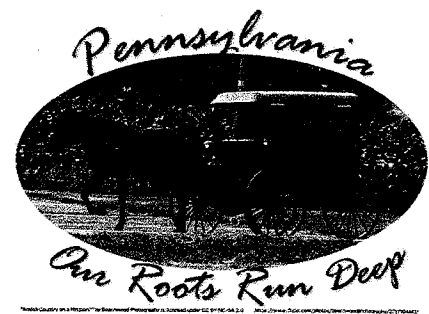
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SUMMER MEETING TO BE HELD IN REVOLUTIONARY CITY

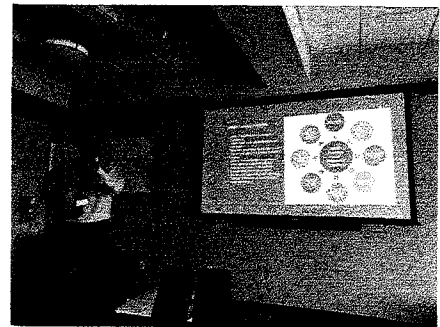
This Aug. 3 – 8, we hope you'll be able to join us in Williamsburg, Va., for the 2018 NACD Summer Conservation Forum and Tour and Southeast Region Meeting! The meeting celebrates the theme "Where Leaders Meet," a fitting theme for a city so rooted in rich history and leadership.



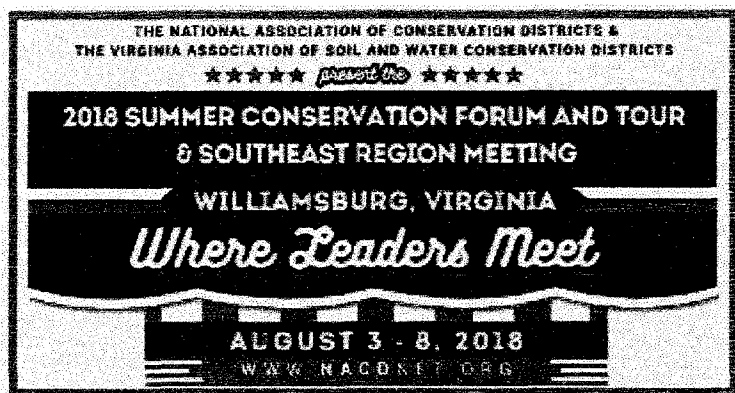
Hosted by the Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts (PACD) staff, you'll be sure to enjoy a program full of fun and educational sessions, tours and activities. We hope you will join us in Pennsylvania Dutch Country this summer!

To learn more and to register, [click here](#) or visit www.pacd.org and click on Events.

NACD participates in meeting with Blackfeet Tribe



On May 23, NACD Northern Plains Region Representative **Laura Demmel** participated in the Blackfeet Tribe's Ag Resource Management Planning (ARMP) Meeting in Browning, Mont. The Tribe was recently awarded funding for three positions through [NACD's Technical Assistance Grants Program](#)



Williamsburg was founded as the capital of the Virginia Colony in 1699. The original capital, Jamestown was the first permanent English-speaking settlement in the New World, founded in 1607. Colonial leaders petitioned the Virginia Assembly to relocate the capital from Jamestown to Middle Plantation, five miles inland between the James and the York Rivers. The new city was renamed Williamsburg in honor of England's reigning monarch, King William III.

Williamsburg was one of America's first planned cities, laid out in 1699. It was to be a city suitable for the capital of the largest and most populous of the British colonies in America. The young city grew quickly into the center of political, religious, economic and social life in Virginia.

Williamsburg became a center of learning, and many famous political leaders emerged from local institutions, including Presidents Thomas Jefferson, James Monroe and John Tyler.

The restoration of Williamsburg began in 1926, when John D. Rockefeller, Jr., led the massive reconstruction of the 18th century city we see today. During a landmark visit in 1934, President Franklin D. Roosevelt proclaimed its main thoroughfare, the Duke of Gloucester Street, "the most historic avenue in America."

Today, Williamsburg is known internationally as the premier center for the preservation and interpretation of American colonial history. While you attend the 2018 NACD Conservation Forum and Tour and Southeast Region Meeting, you'll stay in the beautiful

to support implementation of EQIP practices and conservation planning. Demmel shared the work that NACD's Tribal Outreach and Partnership Resource Policy Group (RPG) has been doing in building more partnerships between conservation districts, tribes, tribal districts, tribal associations and other partners.

Pictured is **Loren BirdRattler**, project manager for Ag Resource Management Plan, presenting on ARMP's funding and ongoing grant initiatives.

Seven teams qualify for international NCF-Envirothon competition

Congratulations to the seven teams who have qualified for the international 2018 NCF-Envirothon competition over the past week:



- Newfoundland - **Elwood High School**
- Rhode Island - **The Wheeler School East Side of Providence**
- Virginia - **Jamestown High School**
- New York - **The Mount Academy**

Williamsburg Lodge, steps away from the city's center. Make sure you review the meeting agenda to plan some time to see Colonial America come to life, or consider selecting the historical tour when you register to learn more about this historical town.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: JUNE URBAN AND COMMUNITY WEBINAR APPROACHES

Interested in backyard food production for yourself or homeowners in your district? Be sure to join us for the next NACD Urban and Community Conservation webinar, from 12:00 p.m.–1:00 p.m. EDT on June 21.

The Carroll County Soil and Water Conservation District in Ohio will share information about their monthly Backyard Food Production meetings and co-sponsored community garden. The National Agroforestry Center in Nebraska will describe how adding fruit and nut producing trees and shrubs into an urban agriculture system can improve production and enhance conservation outcomes.

These popular webinars, held on the third Thursday of each month, are sponsored by The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company in partnership with the NACD Urban and Community Resource Policy Group. There is no cost to participate, but space is limited. Registration will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis. To register, email Debra Bogar at deb-bogar@nacdnet.org with your name, title, district or business name, state and email address. Information to access the webinar will be sent by email.

DID YOU KNOW?



Interesting Facts & Anecdotes
from your District Operations and Member Services Committee

DID YOU KNOW? PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

- Pennsylvania - **Carmichaels Area High School** (pictured)
- Massachusetts - **Newtown North High School**
- North Dakota - **Bismarck High School**

These qualifying teams will represent their home states and provinces July 22 – 27 at Idaho State University in Pocatello, Idaho.

Urban and community conservation webinar suggestions needed!

Since 2012, the NACD Urban and Community Resource Policy Group (RPG) has partnered with The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company in offering monthly NACD Urban and Community Conservation webinars. These popular webinars have covered a variety of urban and community conservation topics with districts and businesses sharing their projects, programs and resources. They are held 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. ET on the third Thursday of each month. View a full list of past webinars, as well as links to presentation PDFs and archived webinar recordings on [NACD's website](#).

The RPG is now seeking your input for the series beginning in October 2018. Help us design webinars that help you! Please take a moment to offer to give a presentation and/or tell us

Did you know personnel management is one of the many responsibilities of every local conservation district board member?

While districts should provide for supervision of their employees, district employees are administratively responsible to the district. Only the district is responsible for hiring, separation, fixing the range of duties, hours of work, pay rates and payment of district employees. District employees may be placed under the technical guidance of Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) staff by the district board, but only within guidelines established by the board. All districts should establish a personnel management policy, including developing a thorough job description and an annual performance evaluation.

The general rule to distinguish whether a person is an employee or independent contract is **how** the district and the individual work together:

- An individual is almost always an independent contractor if the district has the right to control **only** the result of the work (product completed, report received, speech given, field planted, practice installed, milestones reached, deadlines met, etc.) and not what will be done or how it will be done.
- An individual is almost always an employee when the district controls the services performed (what and how work will be done). This applies even if the individual is given freedom of action.

The determining factor is if the district has the power to direct the specifics of performing services: e.g., what actions will be done; regular behavior supervision; location of work; furniture and equipment supplied; with whom the person works; work schedule; and IRS records kept - W-9 and 1099 versus W-4, I-9, and W-2; or put simply the day-to-day activities.

the topics, issues or speakers you would like to see featured.

Send a brief paragraph describing the programs, projects or speakers you would like to see showcased to Deb Bogar by June 30.

Call for soil health poster presentations



The Soil Health Institute is hosting its third Annual Meeting Aug. 1 - 3 in Albuquerque, N.M.

Interested in presenting a poster about soil health? Online applications are due by this Friday, June 1. [Click here](#) for poster guidelines and to submit an application.



NACD Events Calendar

For additional details regarding meetings listed below, [click here](#).

- Northern Plains Leaders Meeting - June 4 - 6
 - Northeast Region Meeting - July 15 - 17
 - NACD Summer Meeting - Aug. 3 - 8
-

Subject **NACD Conservation Forum and Tour and Southeast Region Meeting:
Join Us in Williamsburg!**

From NACD News <nacdnews@nacdn.net.org>

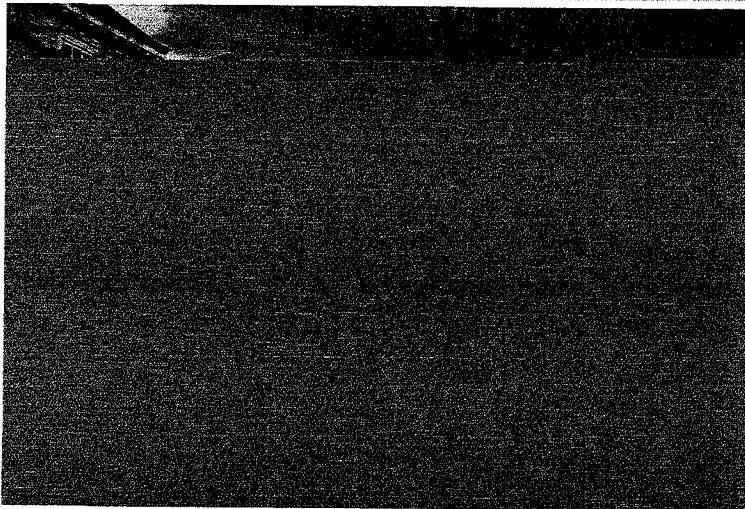
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Join Us in Williamsburg!



This Aug. 3 – 8, we hope you'll be able to join us in Williamsburg, Va., for the 2018 NACD Summer Conservation Forum and Tour and Southeast Region Meeting. The meeting celebrates the theme "Where Leaders Meet," fitting for a city so rooted in rich history and leadership.

This year's meeting will provide conservation officials, landowners and operators, and agency and industry professionals with the opportunity to network and learn about the region's natural resource issues and mitigation strategies. Interested in gaining exposure for your company's products or services? Click here to learn about meeting sponsorship and exhibition hall

Register Now!

Wide Range of Topics Addressed in Concurrent Sessions

NACD and the Southeast Region will offer a wide range of concurrent session topics during the 2018 Conservation Forum and Tour and Southeast Region Meeting.

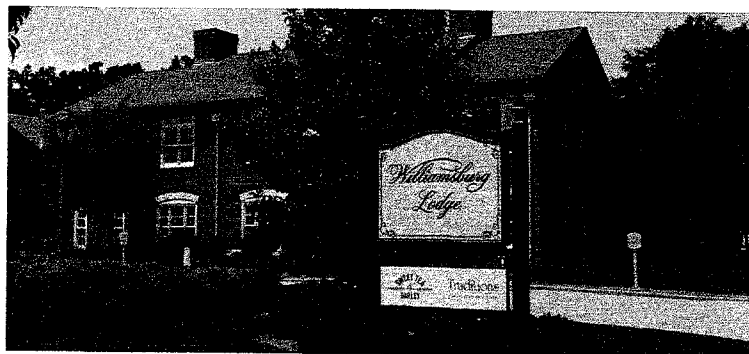
On Monday, Aug. 6, meeting attendees will have the opportunity to learn more about:

- Working with rural landowners
- Education and outreach strategies
- Forestry topics
- How to engage the next generation of conservation planners
- Virginia's Envirothon program

opportunities.

Book Your Stay in the Revolutionary City

The 2018 NACD Conservation Forum and Tour and Southeast Region Meeting will be held at the historic Williamsburg Lodge, steps away from downtown. Make sure to book your room before Friday, July 13. Room rates start at \$137 per night.



Williamsburg served as the capital of the Virginia Colony and played a significant role in America's history. Presidents Thomas Jefferson, James Monroe and John Tyler all lived and learned in the city. In the early 20th century, John D. Rockefeller, Jr., led the efforts to restore Williamsburg to its historic roots.

Today, Williamsburg is known for its preservation and interpretation of American colonial history. Review the meeting agenda here to plan some time during your time in Virginia to see Colonial America come to life, or consider selecting the historical tour when you register to learn more about this historical town.

Choose One of Four Tour Options

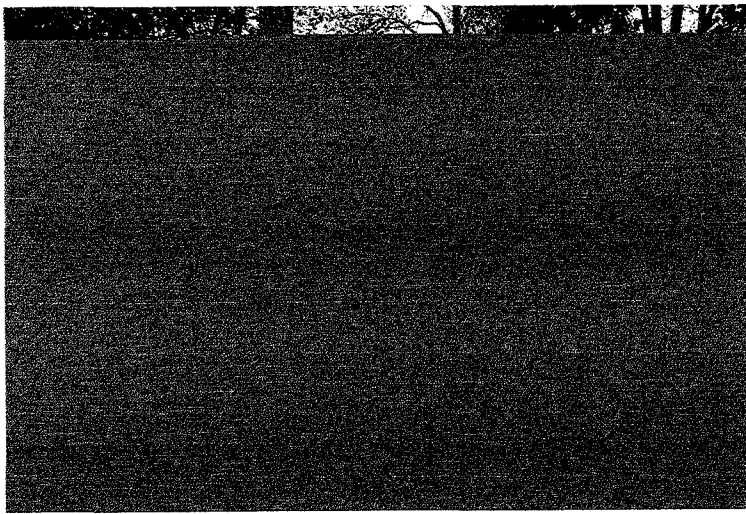
- State urban agriculture conservation success stories
 - Chesapeake Bay restoration efforts
 - Tribal partnerships
 - And much more!
- View the complete list of concurrent session topics, as well as session descriptions and speakers here.

Speaker Line-Up Includes Prominent Federal and State Officials

During the Conservation Forum, held Monday and Tuesday, landowners and operators, political appointees and agency professionals will address meeting attendees.



USDA Under Secretary Bill Northey will provide a keynote address during Monday's general session. Northey was appointed to oversee USDA's farm production and conservation mission area, which includes the Farm



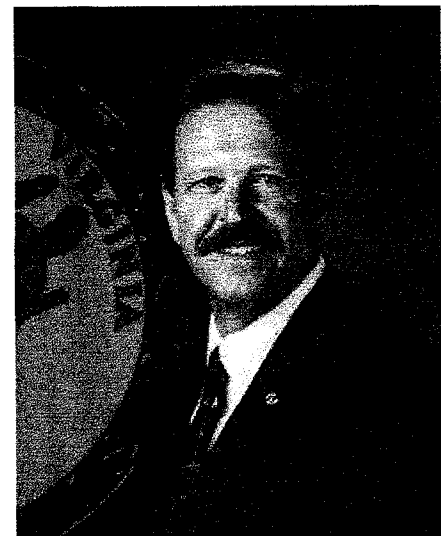
On Tuesday, Aug. 7, join us for one of the four tour options offered during the 2018 NACD Conservation Forum and Tour and Southeast Region Meeting:

1. **Agriculture:** The agriculture tour will visit east central Virginia farms that have successfully implemented conservation practices while remaining profitable. The first stop will be at Upper Shirley Vineyards, next door to the historic Shirley Plantation, the oldest family-owned business in North America. Participants will also stop at Renwood Fields, the current world record holder for corn yield, which uses innovative precision technology. Attendees will also participate in a drone demonstration and tour a tractor museum.
2. **Education and coastal:** Tour attendees will visit the Virginia Watermen's Museum in Yorktown, Va., where they'll learn how the Chesapeake Bay Watermen have played a part in shaping our nation since pre-colonial times. The tour also includes a stop at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS), one of the largest marine research and education centers in the United States. Participants will visit the VIMS teaching marsh to learn how wetlands can improve water quality in nearby waterways.
3. **Urban and forestry:** The urban and forestry tour will feature a variety of speakers from the Department of

Service Agency (FSA), Risk Management Agency (RMA) and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Northey previously served as Agriculture Secretary for the state of Iowa and worked as a district commissioner for Dickinson Soil and Water Conservation District.



Virginia Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry
Bettina Ring will provide a keynote address during Tuesday's general session. Ring was appointed by Gov. Ralph Northam in 2018 and was previously appointed as the the state forester.



Virginia Department of

Forestry, the Virginia Forestry Association and the New Kent Forestry Center. Attendees will learn about forest biotechnology, including genetic research, as well as urban issues and the Virginia Conservation Assistance Program.

4. **Historical:** The historical tour will feature stops in historic Jamestown and the National Park Service's Glasshouse. Meeting-goers will have a guided tour of the first successful English colony in North America, view archaeological investigations and the archaeology museum, and witness glassblowing utilizing the same techniques and tools employed in 1608.

Learn more about each of these tour options here—you can select your preferred option when you register for the meeting!

Conservation and Recreation Director Clyde Cristman will provide a keynote address during Monday's general session. Cristman has previously advised Virginia senators on agriculture, forestry, natural resources, land conservation, and Chesapeake Bay-related issues.

View an up-to-date list of confirmed and invited speakers, as well as their brief biographies here.

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